

Judy also found the time to serve in numerous community service capacities as a board member of the Washington Park Community Center, as a founding board member of the Neighborhood Resource Center, and as President of Colorado NARAL, the Aurora League of Women Voters, the West Washington Park Neighborhood Association and the Theatre Associates Group. She has also been very active in the Colorado Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

I have had the great privilege of working with Judy Rocciano in a political organizing capacity. She is well known in Democratic political circles for her leadership and years of service to the Democratic Party and its candidates. When people need some advice or need to get something done, they go to Judy Rocciano. She has managed numerous campaigns including those of State Senator Deanna Hanna, State Senator Doug Linkhart, State Representative Wayne Knox, State Board of Education Member Gully Stanford, and Councilman Dave Doering. She was instrumental in passing the bonding authority to build Denver International Airport and she also managed campaigns for the Science and Cultural Facilities District to bring needed resources to sustain the arts and cultural amenities in Denver. She headed up the Get-Out-The-Vote effort for my first campaign, for the campaign of Councilwoman Cathleen MacKenzie and for the Democratic Coordinated Campaign.

Judy Rocciano's contribution to the life and character of our community is one that is rich in consequence. It is the character and deeds of Judy Rocciano, and all Americans like her, which distinguishes us as a nation and ennobles us as a people.

Please join me in paying tribute to Judy Rocciano. It is the values, leadership and commitment she exhibits on a daily basis that serves to build a better future for all Americans. Her life serves as an example to which we should all aspire.

#### NATIONAL SALUTE TO HOSPITALIZED VETERANS

**HON. KAREN MCCARTHY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 13, 2001*

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, in 1978 the Department of Veterans Affairs designated the week of February 14 as "National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans," calling upon the nation to focus on hospitalized veterans by making personal visits, hosting programs, and sending valentine cards to veterans from an appreciative country. Twelve years ago columnist Ann Landers called up Americans to participate by sending a valentine to hospitalized veterans on February 14. The response has been tremendous as school children, clubs, churches, and individuals sent notes of affection to those who gave the greatest gift of love through their patriotic service.

"National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans" was originally known as "No Greater Love Day" in tribute to those who sacrificed to protect the future of the United States and the

freedom each of us enjoys today. Those who choose to serve know that "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13.) In recognition of an injury sustained during times of conflict a soldier receives a heart, the Purple Heart, the greatest honor and a symbol of admiration. In tribute we are reminded to send a valentine message from the heart to veterans wounded in action and to all who served.

As we salute our veterans, we must also recognize the medical care provided by VA medical centers, clinics, and nursing home facilities. I applaud the efforts of the hundreds of compassionate men and women who have dedicated themselves professionally to our veterans. Our veterans are receiving the best of care from people who care. This includes volunteers, many of them veterans, who provide countless hours of medical and customer service. Collectively they help provide that personal contact which means so much. As we extend our heartfelt thanks to our veterans, it is the appropriate time to also acknowledge the dedication of those who provide professional and voluntary care.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in saluting our veterans who served in times of peace and war and those who care for our veterans. Happy Valentines Day, a day that symbolizes true love and appreciation.

#### THE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENTS OF JEAN CARPENTER

**HON. HILDA SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 13, 2001*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, Jean Carpenter opened the doors of opportunity for the children of Baldwin Park through her "learning to read" programs. She served as a positive role model to the residents of the 31st Congressional District. She is an example of how one person's perseverance can make tremendous changes to improve our educational system.

Sadly, Jean Carpenter passed away this Monday, February 12, 2001 at the age of 58. She was first diagnosed with breast cancer in 1987 which later resurfaced in 1996.

An active school board member since 1995, she helped establish reading programs as a way to help children obtain a brighter future. These innovative reading programs that were implemented by the school board significantly improved student test scores in Baldwin Park.

Jean believed that by setting high expectations for each student, this would consequently lead to higher school retention, less drop-out rates, and better preparation to enter the workforce.

She was ahead of her time, advocating reduction in class sizes, initiating a drive to obtain \$4.3 million for computer and technology equipment for local schools, and helping to pass a \$15 million school bond to remodel and improve old school buildings.

She also began the "Mother and Daughter Program" to involve parents in their children's education. Jean believed that parent participation would motivate students to excel academically so that they could attain a college education.

She was bestowed with many awards, including: the 1998 57th Assembly District Woman of the Year and the 1999 Baldwin Park Citizen of the Year. In the year 2000, she was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA).

Jean was honored with these awards due to her leadership and commitment to improving the educational system in Baldwin Park. To her friends and family, she was a fighter. Even during her struggle with cancer, she continued to serve on the school board and participated in many community activities.

Jean Carpenter obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Thomas Aquinas College and a Masters in Education from City College of New York. Carpenter is survived by her husband Leroy, her son Michael, and two grandchildren.

We must continue to share the legacy that Jean Carpenter left for us to admire and to replicate in order to improve the educational system nationwide.

#### IDENTITY THEFT

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 13, 2001*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I highly recommend the attached article "Know Your Customer" by Christopher Whalen, which recently appeared in *Barron's*, to my colleagues. This article examines the horrors faced by victims of America's fastest-growing crime: identity theft. As the article points out, millions of Americans have suffered deep financial losses and the destruction of their credit history because of identity theft. Victims of identity theft often discover that the process of reestablishing one's good reputation resembles something out of a Kafka novel. Identity fraud also effects numerous businesses which provide credit to unscrupulous individuals based on a stolen credit history. Just last year, American businesses and consumers lost 25 billion dollars to identity thieves!

Mr. Whalen properly identifies the Social Security number and its use as a universal identifier as the root cause of identity theft. Unfortunately, thanks to Congress, today no American can get a job, open a bank account, or even go fishing without showing their Social Security number. Following the lead of the federal government, many private industries now use the Social Security number as an identifier. After all, if a bank needs to see their customers' Social Security number to comply with IRS regulations, why shouldn't the bank use the Social Security number as a general customer identifier?

In order to end this government-facilitated identity theft, I have introduced the Identity Theft Prevention Act (H.R. 220). This act requires the Social Security Administration to issue new, randomly-generated Social Security numbers to all citizens within five years of enactment. The Social Security Administration would be legally forbidden to give out the new number for any purpose not related to Social Security administration. Numbers issued prior